

**Alida Kaneza**

**TL**

## **Yosemite National Park Travel Log Book**

### DAY 1

Yosemite National Park has got to be the most surreal place I have ever visited in my entire life! Everywhere I look there is beautiful scenery: wildlife, tall trees, huge mountains... It's all so breathtaking! The entire park has this peaceful feeling to it; one feels as if they are bound with nature. I look forward to properly discovering Yosemite National Park and seeing more of this magical area.

### DAY 2

Today, we decided to go visit Glacier Point and Sentinel Dome. I brought along a proper camera to take photos; I don't want to get distracted by anything on my smartphone and the quality on there wouldn't be as good as the camera's quality anyway. I took a good amount of pictures but I found none of them satisfying; the pictures don't do the view any justice. My family will love them either way and they'll for sure be jealous that I got to visit such a beautiful place.

The view from Sentinel Dome is a must see; I felt like I was on top of the world! The mountains and trees are so high, the sky clear and bright blue and reaching out into the air made me feel like I was very close to the sun with how warm the rays were. It was so dreamlike; it's hard to find the proper words to describe the way it looked. I would definitely go there to experience that breeze again.



### DAY 3

**1:50 PM** – I have never been camping in my entire life; this is going to be my first time sleeping outside. I have always wanted to try it with friends but I'm not very fond of the outdoors, especially here since we were told there are bears around... I'm excited, nonetheless, but I still hope we don't run into any bears. I love my teddy bear but I doubt the ones here are as cuddly. At the moment, we have just finished a short hike. It was fun but tiring. I don't feel like setting up the tents, none of us really feel like moving actually, but we need a place to sleep tonight.

**4:20 PM** – We set up camp at a site in Wawona. There were now six of us; the others decided to spend the night at their reserved site in Yosemite Valley. Compared to the sites in Yosemite Valley, the one here in Wawona is fairly empty. I don't like crowds so it's quite comfortable. The tents took us quite a while but we managed. Sasha had been camping a few times before so she taught me how to get things into place. All of us sat down for some snacks after that and talked about anything and everything, just enjoying nature and each other's company. It was quite relaxing.

**8:30 PM** – Most of us started feeling tired around this time so we cooked and had dinner together. I missed home a little and decided it was a good idea to call my parents. We talked for quite a while before wishing each other good night. I am still a little anxious about spending the night outside; I admit it's because I can't stop thinking about the bears, and my sleeping bag isn't as comfortable as a bed. But I need my energy for tomorrow's activities! ☺

#### DAY 4

Spending a night outside and sleeping outside wasn't as bad as I initially thought it would be. I surprisingly had a good night's rest and felt refreshed in the morning. I was right about needing my energy for today since Mrs. B thought it would be a good idea to go hang gliding... I was so terrified at first; I blatantly refused to participate because, well, humans aren't supposed to fly. But after watching the others take off, I thought I would regret it if I didn't give it a try. I panicked (for obvious reasons) but it was exhilarating and kind of worth it in the end: the view was like nothing I had ever seen before! I thought nothing could beat the view from Sentinel Dome, but I was proved wrong today.

It was amazing and although I enjoyed it immensely, I don't think I want to repeat the experience anytime soon x)

#### DAY 5

Today wasn't a very eventful day. We spent our time at our camp site and explored around a little. Nature is truly a relaxing place; I sort of don't feel like ever leaving. I could get used to doing this every day, walking around aimlessly and breathing in fresh air, not being stressed about work, spending my time with my friends. But of course I miss my family and I wish they were here to experience this with me.

I was pretty content with the lack of activity, especially after what we did yesterday, but Mrs. B did have something planned for us in the end. It was a surprise and a very pleasant one at that: I couldn't imagine a better way to end this day than with stargazing. After looking through telescopes to get a better vision of the night sky, I decided to lie down.

I almost fell asleep under the night sky.



## DAY 6

Guess what we found at our campsite this afternoon after getting back from a walk in the park? We found a black bear casually hanging out next to our tent :o I actually found it rather cute even if it did attempt to steal some of our food. Normally, I wouldn't forgive anyone for that but the bear didn't know what it was doing; it was only doing what it was used to. The bear was bigger than I expected, with thick black fur and claws that could easily break things, but its eyes looked so innocent. It was pretty harmless and went away after it realized it couldn't get our food safe open.

I wanted to feed it but we sadly weren't allowed to.

## DAY 7

I think we all had the time of our life, seeing things we weren't accustomed to. I don't hate the city but I do rather prefer the stillness of nature.

Today is the last day to enjoy and savor our time in Yosemite National Park. We went to see the waterfall and I honestly couldn't have asked for a better way to end our stay. It was refreshing, feeling the cool wind around the waterfall, smelling the freshness of the air, watching the water cascade down and form mist where it landed. We were all mesmerized; everything was perfect in that moment. The hike there was absolutely worth it.



Yosemite National Park is like out of a fairytale whether by day or by night. I personally enjoyed the park by nighttime; the nights here were the best for me.

I hope I will one day have the time to repeat this experience, maybe with my family or other friends.